

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: Jimmy D. Brewer, Jr.

Serial No.:

Group No.:

Filed:

Examiner:

For: Tool For Closing A Stuffed Toy

Mail Stop New Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

List of Sections Forming Part of This Information Disclosure Statement

The following sections are being submitted for this Information Disclosure Statement:

1. Preliminary Statements
2. Forms PTO 1449 (now PTO/SB/08A and 08B)
3. Copies of Listed Information Items Accompanying This Statement
4. Concise Explanation of English Language Listed Information Items
5. Identification of Person(s) Making This Information Disclosure Statement

**Section 1. Preliminary Statements**


Applicant(s) submits herewith patents, publications or other information, of which they are aware that they believe may be material to the examination of this application, and in respect of which, there may be a duty to disclose.

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**CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.10**

I hereby certify that this Information Disclosure Statement and the documents referred to as attached thereto are being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date listed below, in an envelope as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee," mailing Label Number ER 216 165 277 US, addressed to the: Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

10/15/2003  
Date

  
Kenneth A. Keeling  
Registration No. 31,842

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 CFR 1.97(g)), an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 25.

## **Section 2. PTO 1449 (Now Forms PTO/SB/08A and 08B)**

PTO Form 1449 is attached hereto.

## **Section 3. Copies of Listed Information Items Accompanying This Statement**

Legible copies of all items listed in Form PTO-1449 accompany this information statement.

## **Section 4. Concise Explanation of English Language Listed Information Items**

Closing the stuffing opening after the stuffing material is inserted by hand-stitching can be a relatively time consuming and costly procedure. It is desirable that the stuffing opening be closed in such a way that time is saved compared to traditional hand-stitching sewing method.

### 1. U.S. Patent No. 6,109,196 issued to Silber on August 29, 2000

Discloses a method of closing that provides openings for stitching, lacing of the stitching filament through the openings prior to stuffing, and pulling the stitching to close the opening after stuffing.

### 2. U.S. Patent No. 4,081,883 issued to Ishii et al in April 1978

Discloses a locking slider for sliding clasp fasteners having a locking spring member for locking the slider into position on the fastener. The locking member is actuated by pivotal motion of a pull tab having a transversely extending trunnion portion interposed between the locking spring member and the outer surface of an upper wing.

### 3. U.S. Patent No. 4,139,928 issued to Aoki et al on February 2, 1979

Discloses a slider for slide fasteners having a locking member actuated by a pull tab. A spring member urges the locking member downwardly toward the upper shield of the slider so as to bring the locking prong into engagement with the fastener elements in the slider channel when the pull tab is held flat against the upper shield. Lifting the pull tab pivotally about its pivotal end retracts the locking prong from the slider channel against the bias of the spring member.

4. U.S. Patent No. 4,422,220 issued to Oda on December, 27 1983

Discloses an automatically locking slider for slide fasteners having an E-shaped locking member. The locking member has a U-shaped base extending around a transverse spindle of a pull tab. The base is normally urged against the spindle of the pull tab by the resilience of the locking member. The pull tab has a transverse spindle having an eccentric cam with a shape such that pivotal movement of the pull tab raises the locking member, thereby permitting movement of the slider.

5. U.S. Patent No. 4,768,263 issued to Fikuroi et al on September 6, 1988

Discloses an automatic lock slider for a slide fastener including a locking prong. The locking prong is spring-biased and urged downwardly to engage a coupling head to effect locking of the slider. When the pull tab is pivoted, a cam shaft is rotated, resulting in upward movement of the locking prong. When the pull tab is released, the cam shaft is urged to rotate, causing the pull tab to lie on the slider body, whereupon the locking prong is also urged down to a locked position.

6. U.S. Patent No. 5,031,286 issued to Kudzierski on July 16, 1991

Discloses a locking slider assembly having a leaf spring which engages the fastener elements of the slide fastener. A tail from the leaf spring engages a pull operator eccentric release bar to impart spring loading to the spring so that upon rotation of the pull tab, the eccentric release bar will cause disengagement of the spring prong from the fastener element to make an adjustment of the slider and its locking engagement with the fastener elements.

7. U.S. Patent No. 5,88,373 issued to Kwamura on March 23, 1999

Discloses an auto-lock slide fastener slider in which a forward and upward force on the pull tab raises a locking leaf spring, removing a locking pawl from the space between adjacent fastener elements so that the slider can be slid on the fastener chain. When the pull tab is released, the locking pawl of the locking leaf spring is inserted into the space between adjacent fastener elements by the action of the resilient tongue so that the slider is prevented from sliding on the fastener chain.

8. U.S. Patent No. 5,896,628 issued to Oda on April 26, 1999

Discloses an auto-lock slide fastener slider in which the upright position of the pull tab raises a locking leaf spring against its own resiliency by the cam of the pull tab retracting the locking pawl from the fastener-element guide groove, allowing the slider to slide freely along a pair of rows of fastener elements. When the pull tab is pivotally moved back to its horizontal posture, the locking pawl enters the fastener element guide channel under the resilience of the leaf spring, thus stopping the slider.

9. U.S. Patent No. 6,314,624 issued to Lin on November 13, 2001

Discloses a slide of an auto-lock zipper having an elastic plate with a first bent portion at one end and a second bent portion, which engages the teeth of the slide fastener, at the other. When the pull tab is dragged, the pivotal end of the tab pushes upward the second bent portion of the elastic plate and a clamping unit at the distal end of the second bent portion is driven to move upward and detach from the teeth. Therefore, the slide can be smoothly moved upward and downward by dragging the tab to open and close the teeth.

## Section 5. Identification of Person(s) Making This Information Disclosure Statement

The person making this statement is:

- (a) ☐ the inventor(s) who signs below.
- (b) ☐ an individual associated with the filing and prosecution of this application.
- (c) ☐ the practitioner who signs below on the basis of the information:
  - ☐ supplied by the inventor(s).
  - ☐ supplied by an individual associated with the filing and prosecution of this application (37 CFR 1.56(c))
  - ☐ in the practitioner's file.

Respectfully submitted,



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Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

# INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

*(Use as many sheets as necessary)*

**Complete if Known**

Application Number	
Filing Date	
First Named Inventor	Jimmy D. Brewer, Jr
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	P0398

Sheet	1	of	1
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## U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

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## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

Examiner  
Signature

Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

*If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.*